

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/803,052

Applicant(s)

EJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Christopher Onuaku

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 10/25/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12&18-24 (now renumbered 1-19, respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/12/01&10/25/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-12&18-24 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose an information processing apparatus, where the apparatus further comprises deleting means for

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deleting one of the first and second digitized information from the electronic memory when the first and second header informations are the same without deleting the other of the first and second digitized information from the electronic memory.

Regarding claim 6, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose an information processing apparatus, where the apparatus further comprises deleting means for deleting one of the first and second digitized signals from the electronic memory when the first and second header informations associated with the first and second digitized signals are the same without deleting the other of the first and second digitized signals

from the electronic memory.

Regarding claim 8, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose a method of processing apparatus with an information processing device having information receiving means, conversion means for digitizing information received by the information receiving means, an electronic memory, and a microprocessor, the microprocessor having a clock circuit, an annexing means and reproduction means, where the method further includes the steps of deleting one of the first and second digital signals from the electronic memory when the first and second header

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informations are the same without deleting the other of the first and second digital signals from the electronic memory.

Regarding claim 18, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose an information input apparatus, where the apparatus comprises control means for ensuring that when new information is input by the input means while information recorded by the recording means is being replayed by the replay means, the header information attached to the information being replayed and header information attached to the new information are one of the same and related header information.

Regarding claim 19, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose an information input apparatus, where the apparatus comprises control means for ensuring that when new information is input by the input means while information recorded by the recording means is being replayed by the replay means, the header information attached to the information being replayed and header information attached to the new information are one of the same and related header information.

Regarding claim 20, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first

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type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose an information input apparatus, where the apparatus further comprises a controller for ensuring that when new information is input by the input device while information recorded in the electronic memory is being replayed, header information attached to the information being replayed and header information attached to the new information are one of the same and related header information.

Regarding claim 21, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of

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information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose a method of processing with an information input apparatus, where the method further comprises wherein when new information is input into the information input apparatus while information that has been recorded is being replayed, the header information attached to the information being replayed and header information attached to the new information being input are one of the same and related header information.

Regarding claim 22, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose an information processing apparatus, where the apparatus further comprises deleting means for deleting the first type of information from the electronic memory with the first type of information having the first time annexed thereto and deleting the second type of information having the second time annexed thereto when the second time is equal to the first time.

Regarding claim 23, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording

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and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose an information processing apparatus, where the apparatus further comprises deleting means for deleting the first digitized signals from the electronic memory with the first digitized signals having a first time annexed thereto and deleting the second digitized signals having a second time annexed thereto when the second time is equal to the first time.

Regarding claim 24, the invention relates to an information input apparatus whereby, when a second type of information has been input in a format added to a first type of information, after having recorded the first type of information with header information including the input date and time of the first type of information, adding of information can be performed easily by recording the second type of information while annexing header information identical to or related to the first type of information.

The closest references Fukuoka (US 5,614,846) discloses a still camera for coding and decoding image data with respect to a photographed image and recording and reproducing these data from a recording medium, and Hashimoto et al (US 5,815,201) teach a digital electronic camera and the interfacing of the camera to an external processing device which monitors, receives images and/or audio, and/or

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controls the camera through an input/output interface, including a digital electronic camera which automatically detects a connection to an external processing device

However, Fukuoka and Hashimoto et al fail to explicitly disclose a method of processing information with an information processing device having information receiving means, an electronic memory, and a microprocessor, the microprocessor having a clock circuit, an annexing means and reproduction means, where the method further includes the steps of deleting the first digital signals from the electronic memory with the first digital signals having the first time annexed thereto and deleting the second digital signals having the second time annexed thereto when the second time is equal to the first time.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

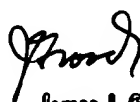
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


COO

1/13/06


James J. Groody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 262-2616